

Message Text

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44

ACTION NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 IO-13 OMB-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03

SS-15 USIA-15 ACDA-19 DRC-01 /118 W

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FM AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9734

INFO AMCONSUL JERUSALEM

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E. O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, PINT, IS, XF

SUBJECT: EBAN ON NEW LABOR PARTY PROGRAM FOR OCCUPIED
TERRITORIES

1. SUMMARY. AT SEPT 4 RALLY AND IN OTHER COMMENTS
EBAN HAS TAKEN POSITION THAT ADOPTION BY LABOR PARTY
OF NEW PLATFORM ON TERRITORIES WAS NOT VICTORY FOR HARD-
LINERS. ACCORDING TO EBAN, A) PARTY OPPOSES ANY LEGAL
OR POLITICAL CHANGES IN TERRITORIES, B) HAS TIGHTLY
CIRCUMSCRIBED POSSIBILITY OF PRIVATE LAND PURCHASES, AND
C) FAVORS ESTABLISHMENT OF ISRAELI SETTLEMENTS IN
RAFAH JUNCTION AREA OF SINAI ONLY "AT MEASURED PACE."
END SUMMARY.

2. EMBASSY HAS RECEIVED GOI PRESS RELEASE GIVING TEXT
OF COMMENTS MADE BY EBAN AT POLITICAL RALLY SEPT 4 CONCERN-
ING LABOR PARTY DOCUMENT OUTLINING POLICY TOWARD OCCUPIED
TERRITORIES OVER NEXT FOUR YEARS.

3. BEGIN TEXT. THE DECISION HAS BEEN TAKEN FOR THE CONTINUA-
TION OF THE POLICY OF THE GOVERNMENT THESE PAST SIX YEARS WITHIN
THE FRAMEWORK OF THE PRESENT PLATFORM. ANYONE WHO DESCRIBES
THIS SUMMATION AS A CHANGE OR TRIUMPH OF A HARD-LINE SCHOOL
DOES NOT KNOW HOW TO READ OR WRITE - OR MORE CONCISELY, ACTS
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OUT OF POLITICAL CONSIDERATIONS THAT ARE NO CRITERION FOR THIS

SUBJECT.

4. FOR THE FIRST TIME, THE LABOR PARTY HAS COMMITTED ITSELF AS OPPOSING ANY CHANGES IN THE LEGAL AND POLITICAL STATUS OF THE OCCUPIED TERRITORIES, NOT ONLY IN PRACTICE, BUT IN DOCTRINE, EXPLICITLY; AND THIS IN THE FACE OF MANY PROPOSALS HEARD FROM VARIOUS SIDES FOR ANNEXATION. THE PARAGRAPH ON THE PURCHASE OF LANDS IS SO ENVELOPED BY PRECAUTIONS AND LIMITATIONS THAT THERE IS NO WAY OF SEEING A NEW POLICY IN IT.

5. IF THE PRIME MINISTER SAW FIT TO UNDERSCORE THAT SHE DID NOT CHANGE HER STAND AGAINST PRIVATE BUYING OF LANDS IN THE TERRITORIES, THIS OBTAINS - SUCH IS MY IMPRESSION - FOR THE REMAINDER OF THE COLLAGUES WHO VOTED AS THEY DID ON THIS SUBJECT A FEW WEEKS AGO. THE NUMBERS CITED FOR SETTLEMENTS IN RAFAH JUNCTION DEMONSTRATE THE FARSIGHTED AND MEASURED PACE OF PLANNING AT A POINT THAT IS OF GREATER STRATEGIC IMPORTANCE THAN ANY OTHER POINT APPEARING UNDER THE RUBRIC OF "SECURE BORDERS."

6. THE RESOLUTION TO DO SOMETHING SIGNIFICANT FOR ALLEVIATING THE LOT OF THE REFUGEES MUST RECEIVE BLESSINGS BY ALL WHO STRESS THE ADVANTAGE AND URGENCY OF PEACE AND UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN TWO NEIGHBORING PEOPLES IN THIS REGION. THE NOTION THAT THE LABOR PARTY HARDENED ITS POSITION IN THIS DOCUMENT IS NOT IN ANY PART CORRECT, AND ITS DISSEMINATION ABROAD IS HARMFUL AND UNNECESSARY. THERE IS CAUSE FOR GRAVE CONCERN REGARDING SOME MOODS IN THE LABOR PARTY, WHICH WERE ALWAYS FOREIGN TO ITS TRADITIONAL MODERATION AND BALANCE THAT HAVE BEEN AROUSED -- BUT NOT IN THE REALM OF THIS DOCUMENT.

7. IT IS PRESSING AND VITAL THAT THE ELECTION CAMPAIGN BROADEN THE SCOPE OF ITS REGARD BEYOND THIS TOPIC OF ACTIVITY IN THE TERRITORIES. A FALSE IMPRESSION HAS BEEN CREATED, AS IF THIS WERE THE ONLY SUBJECT OR IN ANY CASE THE CENTRAL ONE TO BE DECIDED. THIS IMPRESSION IS UNFOUNDED. IN ADDITION TO THIS IMPORTANT TOPIC WE SHOULD BY RIGHTS DEVOTE OUR ATTENTION TO THE GREAT NATIONAL ISSUES THAT HAVE BEEN SHUNTED ASIDE: THE SECURITY QUESTION, THAT OF IMMIGRATION, BETTERMENT OF SOCIETY, ABOLITION OF POVERTY, IMPROVEMENT OF THE DEMOCRATIC

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PROCESSES, PROTECTION OF THE ENVIRONMENT, AN STRENGTHENING THE PRIVATE CITIZEN IN HIS RIGHTS AND ABILITY TO WITHSTAND GOVERNMENT AND PUBLIC BUREAUCRACIES, WHOSE POWER IS INCREASING. END TEXT.

KEATING

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